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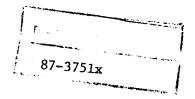
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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON



December 14, 1987

Dear Bill:

Following up on the discussion at the Cabinet meeting earlier this afternoon, I want to outline the basic structure we will use to coordinate our efforts on the budget. Secretary of the Treasury Baker will have primary responsibility for the reconciliation conference report. OMB Director Miller will have primary responsibility for the continuing resolution conference report. Deputy Chief of Staff Ken Duberstein will coordinate White House activities on both pieces of legislation.

There will be many critical decisions in the next few days that will require a rapid response from you. Will Ball, Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs, will be working closely with your Congressional Relations staff. In addition, I request that you or your deputy notify Nancy Risque, Assistant to the President for Cabinet Affairs, where one of you can be reached at all times to establish and communicate Administration positions.

I will hold a meeting at least once each day during the course of these conferences with Jim Baker, Jim Miller, Will Ball, and Ken Duberstein, to assess the policy decisions that need to be made and take to the President those matters which require his guidance.

We anticipate intense negotiations over the next several days and nights. It is unfortunate that much of this year's legislative agenda will be compressed into such a short time. A successful effort, producing legislation that codifies the budget agreement and that the President can sign, will require our full attention.

There

/Howard H. Baker, Jr. Chief of Staff to the President

The Honorable William H. Webster Director of Central Intelligence Washington, D.C. 20505